



**Governor's STEM Advisory Council
Executive Committee
February 23, 2012
9:00am – 10:30am**

PRESENT:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PRESENT ON SITE:

Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds, co-chair
President Benjamin Allen, co-chair
John Carver
Don Frazer
Elizabeth Hoffman (proxy for President Leath)
Jason Glass
Michelle Gowdy (proxy for Mr. Schickler)
Gail Kotval (proxy for Director Durham)
Jeff Weld, Executive Director

DIAL IN MEMBER:

Teresa Wahlert

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE:

Barry Butler (proxy for President Mason)
Gail Wortmann

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBER PRESENT

Sen. Mark Chelgren

GUESTS AND STAFF

David Drake (via videoconference)
Carmine Boal
Brenda Buzynski
Linda Fandel
Kari Jastorff (via videoconference)
Elliott Smith

Not Represented

Rob Denson
Raynard Kington

AGENDA:

Opening Remarks.

Lt. Governor Reynolds welcomed the executive committee and guests, thanking everyone for their efforts.

Updates: Exec. Dir. Weld noted the new members recruited to committees of the Council thanks to the January 25 Advisory Council meeting held at Principal Financial Group. The business sector is more strongly represented in our work as a result. February 25 a “think-tank” of award-winning science, mathematics, and technology teachers will be held at Grinnell College for garnering feedback to the working groups’ action plans. And, an inter-university consortium of evaluation experts (UNI’s Center for Social and Behavioral Research, ISU’s Research Institute for Studies in Education, UI’s Center for Evaluation and Assessment) will submit a \$1.2M NSF proposal on March 5 for evaluating the activities of the STEM Advisory Council.

Item 1: Review of two RFPs

1. REGIONAL STEM NETWORKS for IOWA: Extensive discussion informed the evolution of the plan for creating Regional STEM Networks for Iowa. The revised document is now posted on the

Executive Committee website (www.iowamathscience.org/exec_comm) for review by the entire Advisory Council and interested stakeholders. In order to meet an aggressive timeframe for solving Iowa's student interest/achievement challenge beginning yet this year, it was agreed that an e-mail vote of the Executive Committee on endorsing the plan be conducted on March 1, 2012. If approved, the RFP will be disseminated immediately following. The work of the planning committee chaired by President Denson in designing the Networks RFP was acknowledged with deep appreciation by the Executive Committee co-chairs Lt. Governor Reynolds and President Allen.

2. **SCALE-UP of EXEMPLARY PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS:** Extensive discussion also informed the evolution of the plan for scaling up exemplary project and programs in Iowa proven to increase student interest and achievement. The revised document is now posted on the Executive Committee website (www.iowamathscience.org/exec_comm) for review by the entire Advisory Council and interested stakeholders. Slight modifications to the draft are forthcoming from the committee, including an evaluation rubric and dissemination recommendations. The final draft will be presented at the next meeting of the Executive Committee, March 12 where a vote on endorsement is planned. If approved, the Application will be disseminated immediately following. The work of the planning committee chaired by Deb Dunkhase in designing the Scale-Up concept was acknowledged with deep appreciation by the Executive Committee co-chairs Lt. Governor Reynolds and President Allen.

Item 2: New Committees needed

Guidance was provided by members to address the looming necessity for additional committees. Regional Hub selection will be a decision made by the Executive Committee as a whole (with members who have an interest in the outcome recusing themselves from vote). Application digestion and presentation for the Executive Committee will be managed by IMSEP staff. Scale-up selection committee membership was determined to be optimally populated by regional representatives who will be directly responsible for implementation. Executive Committee members with no interest in the outcome of the decision may serve as well. And, Regional Hub manager/advocate selection committee was not resolved at this time.

Item 3: Preparations for March 12 Executive Committee meeting

Seven Action Plan Working Groups are preparing draft recommendations for the Executive Committee's review and comment on March 12. Each Working Group Chairperson will be invited to a 10-minute sharing window before the Executive Committee. Chairs are being encouraged by the Executive Director to provide their drafts ahead of March 12 if possible, for preliminary review ahead of the meeting.

Intermediary Networks were proposed by Mary Lou Erlacher, Director of the Workplace Learning Connection in Cedar Rapids, to serve in match-making capacity for the Regional STEM Networks. The concept was shared by Exec. Director Weld. The proposal may be viewed at www.iowamathscience.org/exec_comm. The Executive Committee made no decisions regarding the proposal.

Quick facts regarding the STEM Council's work, it was opined, may be helpful to Executive Committee members relating to legislators and other stakeholders. Such a document is posted to www.iowamathscience.org/exec_comm.

CLOSURE

Lt. Governor Reynolds and President Allen thanked Executive Committee members and the two committee chairs and their members for all of their hard work to date, acknowledging much exciting work lying ahead. They acknowledged everyone's passion for STEM education and praised the collaboration marking progress to date.

ADJOURNED 10:30AM

NEXT MEETING: March 12, 2012

Compiled by Jeff Weld
2-24-2012